

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A method of gathering information about a user message, the method comprising:  
detecting a user message identifier that a program uses in presenting a user message in a computer system where the program is being executed; and  
using the detected user message identifier in storing information about the presented user message in a log that is accessible to a user of the computer system.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the user message identifier is detected in a unit of the computer system where a majority of user message identifiers can be detected.
3. The method of claim 1, further comprising detecting a second user message identifier used by a second program in presenting a second user message, and storing information about the second user message in the log.
4. The method of claim 1, further comprising accessing a list that identifies the information about the presented user message that is to be stored in the log.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein the information is to be stored in one of at least two logs and one of the logs is a default log, further comprising storing the information in the default log for messages where the list does not specify one of the logs.
6. The method of claim 4, wherein the list specifies that information about a particular user message is not to be stored.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein the stored information includes one selected from the group consisting of: the user message identifier, how many messages associated with the user message identifier have been presented, to which user in the

computer system the user message was presented, a date when the user message was presented, and combinations thereof.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the stored information comprises a text of the presented user message.

9. The method of claim 8, further comprising determining the text by accessing a storage of message texts.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the stored information comprises one selected from the group consisting of: a sequence number of the presented user message, a name of the program, an event that triggered the program to present the user message, information on where in the computer system the user message was triggered, a system flag status when the message was triggered, and combinations thereof.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein detecting the user message identifier comprises introducing code in a kernel of the computer system, which code when executed monitors messaging information in the kernel.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the messaging information comprises at least one message statement generated by the program.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein the stored information comprises information from a call stack in the kernel.

14. The method of claim 1, wherein the user message identifier is detected in a message handler of the computer system.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein the user message identifier is detected by monitoring events in the message handler.

16. A computer program product containing executable instructions that when executed cause a processor to perform operations comprising:

detect a user message identifier that a program uses in presenting a user message in a computer system where the program is being executed; and

use the detected user message identifier in storing information about the presented user message in a log that is accessible to a user of the computer system.

17. The computer program product of claim 16, wherein the operations further comprise:

access a list that identifies the information that is to be stored.

18. The computer program product of claim 17, wherein the information is to be stored in one of at least two logs and one of the logs is a default log, and wherein the operations further comprise:

store the information in the default log if the list does not specify the other log.

19. The computer program product of claim 16, wherein detecting the user message identifier comprises executing code in a kernel of the computer system to monitor messaging information in the kernel.

20. The computer program product of claim 16, wherein the user message identifier is detected in a message handler of the computer system.

21. A computer system comprising:

at least one program being executed; and

a detection module detecting a user message identifier that the program uses in presenting a user message, the detection module storing information about the presented user message in a log that is accessible to a user of the computer system.

22. The computer system of claim 21, further comprising code introduced in a kernel of the computer system to monitor messaging information in the kernel, wherein the detection module detects the user message identifier using the messaging information.

23. The computer system of claim 21, further comprising a message handling module that manages messages in the computer system, wherein the detection module detects the user message identifier in monitoring the message handling module.